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# Press and Public Demand Firm Action by Wilson

## Bernstorff's Recall Urged in Editorial

Diplomatic Relations with Germany Must Cease at Once, "The World" Insists—Other City Newspapers Belligerent

Editorial comment of New York city newspapers on the German submarine proclamation, generally belligerent in tone, follows:

**The World**

There can be only one answer on the part of the United States to the new German submarine proclamation, and that answer should be made to-day. The German Ambassador must receive his passports forthwith and diplomatic relations must cease at once. There should be no procrastination until the laws of the United States government are forced by premeditated murder and degradation.

We have made every concession to Germany that self-respect will permit and all those concessions have proved to be in vain. To acquiesce in a resumption of ruthless submarine operations is to subject ourselves to the losses of war while the enemy is at sea. That is intolerable. No peace is worth the price of abject national humiliation and degradation. No peace is worth the surrender of a nation's sovereign rights.

If Germany wants war with the United States, let Germany have war with the United States. Our hands are clean.

**The Sun**

The note closes for the present the chapter of altruistic endeavor and tentative parleys into which President Wilson has written his idealistic hopes. It creates an entirely new situation of the most practical sort, so far as the United States is concerned, and in the extreme possibilities of untoward incidents which may put to the test the steadfastness of Washington in its attitude and assertion of the principles which our State Department has already enunciated.

**The Herald**

The major portion of the note published today is for consumption by the German people. The American people are interested only in its open flouting of their government, in the truculent assumption of Prussianism that it can deprive the United States of all those rights which have been maintained so stoutly in the past.

Doubtless the idea of the Berlin government is that it can "bluff" an American President into a disgraceful surrender.

The Berlin government may be mistaken.

**The American**

No sensible American expected that a high spirited and powerful people, such as the Germans are, would con-

tinue to submit to seeing their women and children starved by sea warfare without eventually striking back at their enemies on the sea.

When Mr. Lansing formulated a policy of stern repression of German injuries to neutral commerce and a policy of effectual reprobation of British injuries to neutral commerce, he shaped our country's course toward this most serious situation with unerring certainty, for he was demanding that Germany submit to conditions which we Americans would never submit to the dictation of any other nation.

But while we deplore the results of a policy whose short-sightedness and danger we have repeatedly pointed out, we cannot stop now to quarrel or cavil over the tremendous blunder we have made. We must all face the situation in which we are placed—unhappily and unnecessarily, as we believe—and take counsel together as to the nation's course.

We are profoundly hopeful that our own peace can be maintained and that Mr. Wilson will find a way to do so without honor.

But if it is to be his lot to find no other way to walk in honor except with the sword in hand—which he forbids!—then we will all walk loyally in that way with him.

**The Times**

Will the Government and the people of the United States put up with this open pathway of the sea? They will not, they cannot. It aims to destroy billions of our trade, by far the greater part of our commerce, it demands us to obey rules and regulations which no sovereign nation can permit another to impose. The order is issued without a shadow of justification in law or right.

Let Germany come forth with her fleet, let her establish a lawful and effective blockade of the British islands with her warships, and we will recognize her right to put that kind of blockade upon our commerce. But her rights are limited to exclusion by blockade and to visit and search. Where she maintains no pretense or show of blockade we can never acknowledge the submarine right to mine and her authority to bar the access of our ships or of ships bearing American citizens and American commerce to the ports included within her ban.

Germany's defeat in the war, it cannot be long deferred, and in itself a counsel of despair. But her rights at the end of the war is not very far distant.

## END RELATIONS, TILLMAN SAYS

If Germany Carries Out Threat, Send Bernstorff Home, Senator Advises

**Washington, Jan. 31.**—Diplomatic relations should be broken off at once if Germany carries out her threats, Senator Benjamin R. Tillman, of South Carolina, declared on hearing of the proposed submarine warfare.

"If the Germans do what they say they are going to do and if I were President," he declared emphatically, "I would send Bernstorff and his embassy 'whatnots' home to his barbarians."

"It is a delicate situation," said Senator Porter J. McCumber, of North Dakota, member of the Foreign Relations Committee, "in view of the Lusitania and Sussex notes. The United States seems to be right up against it. It's up to the President to say whether we will make good on what we said we were going to do."

"The establishment of a blockade, in itself, does not give us a proper ground for complaint," said Senator George Sutherland, of Utah, Republican member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. "It depends on how that blockade is conducted. If it is made effective, the fact that it is a submarine blockade would not, in my opinion, alter its legal status."

"But the fact that the blockade has been instituted and is attempted to be maintained by submarines does not alter the rules regarding the conduct of a blockade. Neutral or belligerent ships attempting to enter the blockaded ports would be liable to capture, but would not be subject to destruction without warning. The introduction of new weapons in warfare does not change the rules of international law any more than the invention of gunpowder changed the laws with regard to murder."

Senator Cummins, of Iowa, said: "If Germany pursues the course that you have indicated from your quotation of the note, we are steering directly for a conflict."

Representative Flood, chairman of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, said: "The German note has brought the submarine warfare back to the status of eighteen months ago. It makes the situation more serious than ever before."

Representative Augustus P. Gardner said: "I am not surprised. The President will now be called upon to make good his words, uttered at the time

## No Move by U. S. Navy to Meet U-Boat Situation

**Washington, Jan. 31.**—Not a ship was moved by the Navy Department to-night, in spite of the fact that the United States is faced, beginning at midnight to-night, with a warlike menace to its shipping. The apathy that overspread the White House and State Department was reflected in Secretary Daniels's department. The administration did not even notify the Secretary of what had happened, and he expressed complete surprise when a newspaper reporter told him that the German vessels were being ordered to leave the United States.

The high officers of the navy, it is said, are not in sympathy with this apathy. They believe not a moment should be lost in mobilizing the country's naval power, both as a warning to Germany and for use in case the German programme is put into effect. These officers believe that Germany's new submarine warfare is a direct menace to the United States.

The destroyers, particularly, would be of value in conveying American ships through the war zone. There is little likelihood, it is thought, that larger vessels will be employed, as they are too vulnerable to torpedo attack.

The idea that England can be starved "in thirty days" or any other period by the use of submarines is not a new one. If worst comes to worst, officers say, the British can take all their supplies through France. It would be a comparatively easy matter, they say, for England to establish a submarine-proof lane across the Channel.

**LADD SEES REPETITION OF LUSITANIA HORROR**

**Note Means Submarine Action on Larger Scale, Says Yale Professor**

New Haven, Jan. 31.—Professor George C. Ladd, of Yale, a leading authority on international law, tonight said: "I have already criticized the government severely for its laxity in not enforcing international laws restricting submarine warfare. My views are well known and do not need to be repeated. I expect that the new German note will mean a repetition of the Lusitania horror on a larger scale."

**Motor Truck Kills Woman**

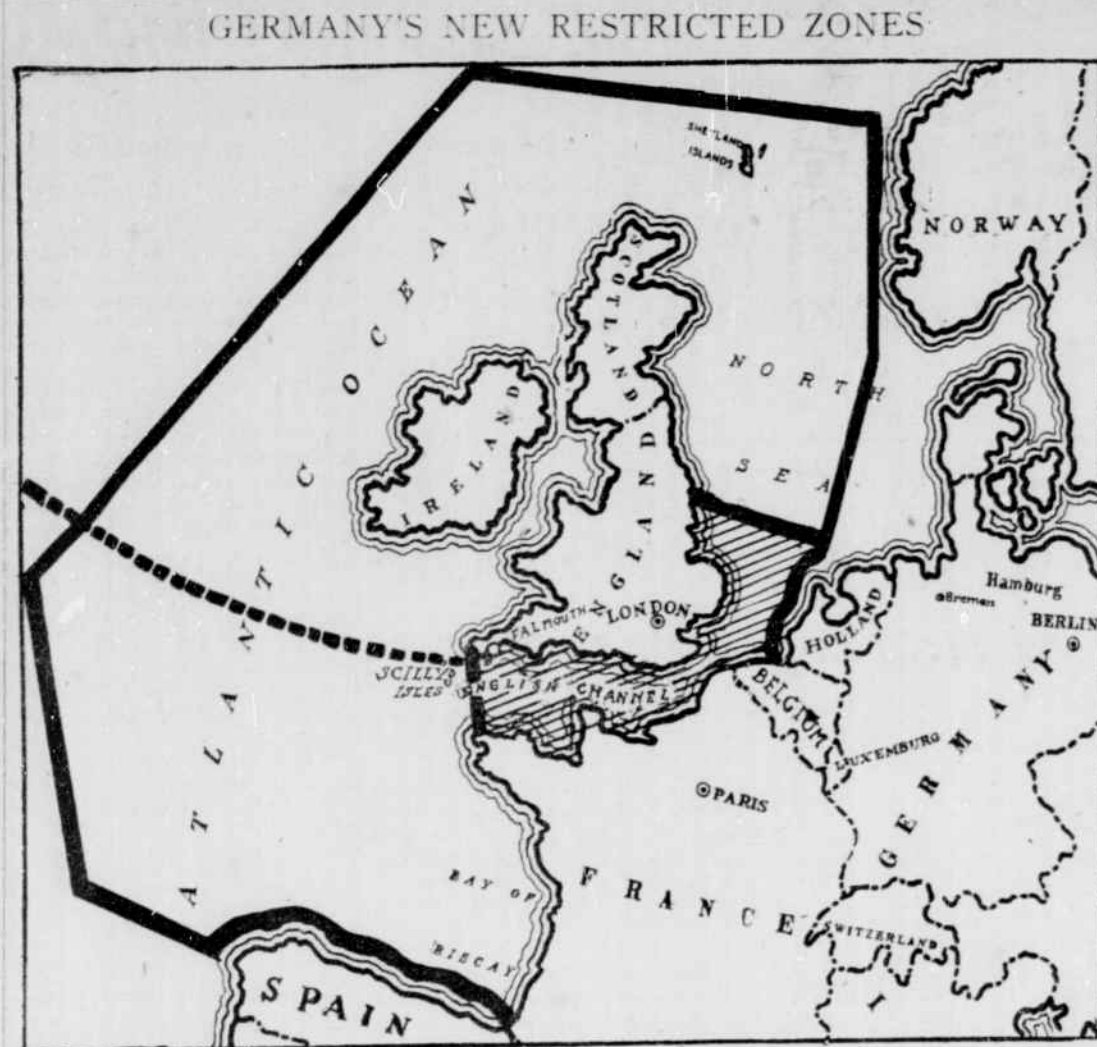
Miss Eliza E. Reilly, fifty-two years old, of 222 East Twenty-first Street, was killed last night at 113th Street and Third Avenue, when she was run down by a motor truck owned by John E. Fitzpatrick, of No. 1717 Broadway, and driven by William Schaeffer, of Belmont, Long Island. The driver was not arrested.

**Philadelphia Public Ledger**—It is impossible to exaggerate the gravity of the latest news from the German note or to ignore the indisputable fact that it brings the United States not only to the necessity of facing an immediate severance of diplomatic relations with Germany, but to the very verge of war.

There can be no question of American rights and duties in this grave emergency. Let us wait for the demonstration of Germany's full intention and hope that it may fall short of that interference with the "freedom of the seas" which would necessitate unpleasant action by our government.

**Indianapolis Star**—A ruthless campaign, such as indicated in the Berlin announcement, will embitter the allied nations to such an extent that peace efforts of neutrals are likely to fall on deaf ears.

**Cleveland Leader**—The note is plain-



The map shows the three restricted zones declared in yesterday's official warnings from Germany. All the area within the heavy black line is declared a "danger zone" which neutrals enter at their own risk. The dotted line shows the route along which Germany is willing to permit one American ship to enter and leave Falmouth each week. The shaded area is that from which Allied hospital ships are barred in travel between England and France. It will be seen that this covers the entire English Channel. A similar zone covers all the coasts of the Allied powers in the Mediterranean.

## Insult to U. S. and War Threat, View of Editors

Newspapers of Country Declare Wilson Cannot Accept Germany's New Sea Orders Passively—Assert President Tried to Avoid Issue

Following are extracts from the editorial comments on the German note by newspapers outside of New York:

**Baltimore Sun**—The government is now facing the most critical situation of the whole war. We cannot temporize. There must be no more illegal killing of American citizens on the high seas. If insistence upon this means a break with the Central Powers, then the break must come.

**Washington Post**—Germany's note will fall upon the American public with stupefying effect. No doubt it was in view of this danger that President Wilson made such extraordinary efforts to bring about peace. It is impossible for this government to tolerate the new rule which Germany seeks to impose.

**Hartford Courant**—Germany announces that she is going to increase the ferocity of her marine warfare and warns us to look out. The Allies declare that they want no peace without victory. That is the return so far from the meretricious peace which Germany has outlined to Germany. The world is now faced with the choice of making good this threat of piracy President Wilson will be forced into the course of action that he himself has outlined to Germany.

**Meriden (Conn.) Record**—The expected German note has been received at last shown her hand and it reveals the reason for President Wilson's frantic efforts to stave off the inevitable. The serious import of the document cannot be overestimated. If it does not mean war it signifies that the days of miracles have not passed.

**New London (Conn.) Telegraph**—There is no denying the question that the most perilous situation of the war has arisen and the question suggests itself whether there may not have been more after all to Secretary Lansing's "verge of war" speech than has hitherto been acknowledged.

**Worcester (Mass.) Telegram**—It is a declaration of war against the United States. There is no doubt that Germany has almost reached its limit of war endurance and takes this reckless method of making one more big bluff to stop the war before German militarism is crushed. It is the most astonishing paper ever issued by a government sustained by a sane people and it is a disgrace to the German nation. There is no plan in the universe that permits a nation to succeed by such methods as these, and this final step of Germany, in defiance of the United States, permits President Wilson to have no other choice but the severance of diplomatic relations altogether.

**San Francisco Chronicle**—Looked at in a practical way—and it should be—there is no doubt that none of the belligerents has respected the provisions of international law—Germany is simply cutting loose from all restraints and proceeding on the principle that all is fair in warfare and that is best which makes for victory. It is a desperate move, but America can and should do nothing until she is specifically injured.

**Sioux Falls (S. D.) Press**—It is inconceivable that the United States government, standing as it consistently has from the beginning of this war for obedience to law, can give such tacit approval of lawlessness as would be implied by obedience to Germany's suggestion.

**Boston Post**—The fuse is near the diplomatic magazine, and it is lighted. But that some honorable way may yet be found to put out the spark, all thoughtful and patriotic Americans will, we think, earnestly desire.

**Boston Herald**—Let us wait for the demonstration of Germany's full intention and hope that it may fall short of that interference with the "freedom of the seas" which would necessitate unpleasant action by our government.

**Philadelphia Public Ledger**—It is impossible to exaggerate the gravity of the latest news from the German note or to ignore the indisputable fact that it brings the United States not only to the necessity of facing an immediate severance of diplomatic relations with Germany, but to the very verge of war.

There can be no question of American rights and duties in this grave emergency. Let us wait for the demonstration of Germany's full intention and hope that it may fall short of that interference with the "freedom of the seas" which would necessitate unpleasant action by our government.

**Springfield Republican**—This means impossible conditions for the United States, and no American in his senses would consider for a moment acquiescence in Germany's action. It is a grave question whether President Wilson should not hand to the German Ambassador his passports immediately.

**Indianapolis Star**—A ruthless campaign, such as indicated in the Berlin announcement, will embitter the allied nations to such an extent that peace efforts of neutrals are likely to fall on deaf ears.

**Cleveland Leader**—The note is plain-

## GERMANY WARS ON ALL NEUTRALS, ASSERTS COUDERT

Ruthless Course Outcome of Lusitania Tragedy, He Declares

WARSHIP CONVOYS URGED BY DEPEW

Terrorism Used to Replace Lack of Force, Says Prof. Stowell

Indignation was the keynote of comment by prominent men last night on Germany's latest message to the United States.

Frederic R. Coudert, the lawyer, said: "This action on the part of Germany indicates a desperate situation in which all semblance of a regard for law, or color of law, is to be abandoned. Great areas of the free seas are marked out in which belligerent or neutral lives and shipping are to be dealt with wholly outside of law and humanity."

"This practically declares war upon the neutral world. The attempt to dictate the exact ports to which American vessels may sail and the dates and routes is an exercise of power which it is not presumed the American Government can or will for a moment tolerate."

**Logical Outcome of Lusitania**

"It is now certain that the German war party are in complete control and that they will no longer hesitate to carry out their most ruthless measures, even though certain to arraign America against Germany. Judging from recent official statements, this course was not unanticipated by Washington, and it is to be hoped that measures compatible with our dignity as a nation will be resorted to."

"This is the logical outcome of the Lusitania, Sussex and other tragedies, and was inevitable, I believe, upon the failure of the peace suggestion."

"The note is a gross insult to the United States," declared Chauncey M. Depew, "it assumes to dictate to us in the manner in which we shall do things which it is our absolute right to do as we please. It is nothing short of a denial of the right of the seas to the United States—and if that is denied sovereignty itself is taken away."

"If I were President I would make a plain statement of the rights of this country on the seas, and then I would follow up that statement to the end. If necessary I would send a battleship with every really American merchant vessel which wished to enter the forbidden zone."

There are certain articles which are recognized by the laws of nations as contraband. I would not protect a vessel carrying these articles, but I certainly would not take away protection simply because a vessel is a cargo including some articles forbidden by the German government alone."

**Note Not Blockade Order**

"The German note is not a blockade order. It is transparent that Germany cannot effect a real blockade. She evidently relies more on her threat than on her torpedoes and mines. American vessels have the right to go anywhere they please so long as there is no real blockade in effect. If they are entitled to fly the American flag they are entitled to all the respect due the might of the people that flag represents. If I were President I should see that they got it."

Ellery C. Stowell, associate professor of international law at Columbia University, said: "The evident intention of the Germans as declared in their note is to torpedo all vessels approaching Allied territory and to give to the measures adopted as nearly as possible the aspect of a blockade. But blockade is no more than the British interdiction. It is really an extraordinary measure based upon the ground of reprisal."

"Even if Germany had the force to maintain an effective blockade she would have no right to sink without warning the ships attempting to violate it. Not having the force upon the seas to employ the ordinary and legal methods of blockade, she resorts to terrorism what she lacks in power, not even according a seemingly delay before putting into force her unwarranted measures."

**"A Culminating Insult"**

"From the point of view of the United States, this note is a culminating insult and demonstrates how impossible it is to avoid difficulties by refusal to meet them firmly when they first arise. By this notice Germany shows us that she is going to let us run ships in that the American flag shall fly from the stern. That is quite appropriate—the rear of everything is where Wilson has put our flag and where it will stay until we get rid of Wilson. Times without number since he first entered the White House I have said he would go out of it the most discredited man who ever occupied it. I now think he will be fortunate if he escapes impeachment."

Dr. George W. Kirchwey, formerly dean of the Law School of Columbia University, said: "Germany's latest note should not make war between Germany and the United States inevitable. It will, of course, lead to protest from the United States."

**How to Peace Overtures**

"The note is a keen disappointment, and certainly deals a hard blow at President Wilson's peace overtures. Germany has adopted desperate measures, which would seem to indicate that years to life."

**GERMANS LOSE 612 PLANES**

French Correct Assertion That Only 221 Were Destroyed Last Year

Paris, Jan. 31.—A semi-official statement was issued to-day concerning a German assertion that the Germans had lost only 221 airplanes last year. The statement says the French military records show that 417 German machines were shot down by aviators, that 195 other machines were brought down, having been badly injured if not destroyed, and that twenty-nine captive balloons were blown up.

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tached in that note were readily regarded as permissible verbiage to save her face. We should in the first place, have taken our stand by the side of the Allies for the defence of Belgium and of international law. I hope the American people will regard this note in its true light as a defiance which should find only one reply."

"The first part of the note is wild and silly and futile," said George Haven Putnam, "and it has nothing whatever to do with the issue. The part about shipping shows that Germany is at last determined to do what she has long threatened—to undertake a submarine blockade, not of England, but of the American coast. The whole situation was compressed into one sentence last week when a speaker at the Washington preparedness conference declared: 'Germany knows whose faces she can spit into.'"

**"Intensification of Insults"**

"This last is not only an insult, it is an intensification of all the insults the Kaiser has heaped on our heads during the course of the war. It is more—it is an aggravation of the offenses which Germany has time and again committed against us. We are asked to place our commerce under the wing of the American Admiralty, to have Americans submit to German made law. We have said three times within the last few months that we would send Bernstorff home if they did not stop this thing."

"We made good on some of the mighty words our President has spoken; that we did some of the things that for months we ought to have done. Late as it is, the American nation would rise to back up Wilson if he showed the courage of his former words."

No one need be in the least surprised at what has happened," said George W. Perkins, "It has been perfectly evident for some time that Wilson was taking us into this very situation. His policy of battling in Mexico with its dire consequences, has been accompanied by a policy of butting in in European affairs. In both cases our country has suffered humiliation of the deepest sort. On the very day that our troops are being withdrawn from Mexico, after a perfectly futile effort to get Villa, we receive this new affront from Germany."

**Where Wilson Keeps Flag**

"I think you'd best ask for opinions from the people who voted for Wilson last November: in the plan that he has protected me and mine, has kept us out of war and given us prosperity. I notice that one of the conditions under which the kind Kaiser is going to let us run ships is that the American flag shall fly from the stern. That is quite appropriate—the rear of everything is where Wilson has put our flag and where it will stay until we get rid of Wilson. Times without number since he first entered the White House I have said he would go out of it the most discredited man who ever occupied it. I now think he will be fortunate if he escapes impeachment."

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**How to Peace Overtures**

"The note is a keen disappointment, and certainly deals a hard blow at President Wilson's peace overtures. Germany has adopted desperate measures, which would seem to indicate that years to life."

**TEIPER TO BEGIN SENTENCE**

Buffalo, Jan. 31.—Justice Charles H. Brown today refused to grant a certificate of reasonable doubt to John Edward Teiper, convicted of murder in the second degree for killing his mother, Mrs. Agnes M. Teiper.

An appeal will be taken, but Justice Brown's decision means that Teiper must be taken to Auburn forthwith to begin serving his sentence of twenty years to life.

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